

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. - 3. (cancelled)
4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is separate from said sheath.
5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is incorporated within said sheath.
6. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising a sealing valve coupled to said sheath to seal said lumen.
7. (cancelled)
8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has at least one portion with a stiffness different than remaining portions of said sheath.
9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has at least one portion with a moldability different than remaining portions of said

sheath.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath is deployed in a body cavity and has at least one portion with a moldability which can be altered at the time of implantation in said body cavity.

11 (original) The apparatus of claim 10 where said at least one portion has its moldability altered before said sheath is implanted into said body cavity.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 10 where said at least one portion has its moldability altered after said sheath is implanted into said body cavity.

13. - 28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape selectively imparted to it by a user by bending of the sheath along its length; and

a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued inserted presence of said shaping tool in the sheath.

30. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath is characterized by a sufficient moldability so that removal of said shaping tool does not result in any substantial displacement of said sheath from said specific shape.

31. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath has a lumen and where said shaping tool applied to said sheath comprises an elongate shaping tool which is telescopically disposed within said lumen in said sheath.

32. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and
a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool applied to said sheath comprises a shaping tool applied exteriorly to said sheath and imposing a shaping force thereon.

33. - 36. (cancelled)

37. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said moldable sheath has at least a portion of changed moldability relative to

remaining portions of said sheath.

38. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37 where said portion which changes its moldability while in said body cavity comprises at least a portion of said sheath having a moldability dependant on temperature in which said moldability of said sheath is changed while in said body cavity and exposed to a body cavity temperature elevated above ambient temperature.

39. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and
a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool,

where said moldable sheath has at least a portion of changed moldability relative to remaining portions of said sheath,

where said portion which changes its moldability while in said body cavity comprises at least a portion of said sheath having a moldability dependant on temperature in which said moldability of said sheath is changed while in said body cavity and exposed to a body cavity temperature elevated above ambient temperature, and

where said portion which changes its memory shape while in said body

cavity comprises at least a portion having a moldability dependant on moisture in which said moldability of said sheath is changed while in said body cavity and exposed to moisture.

40. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37 where said portion of changed moldability has its moldability changed by treating at least a portion of said sheath exterior to said body cavity prior to implanting.

41. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and
a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool,
where said moldable sheath has at least a portion of changed moldability relative to remaining portions of said sheath,
where said portion of changed moldability has its moldability changed by treating at least a portion of said sheath exterior to said body cavity prior to implanting, and
where said portion of changed moldability has its moldability changed by exposing at least a portion of said sheath to radiation.

42. - 52. (cancelled)

53. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific
shape imparted to it; and
a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted
sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body
cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping
tool, where said moldable sheath has a tip portion and where said tip portion is
substantially soft and compliant without appreciable moldability.

54. (cancelled)

55. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said
moldable sheath is preshaped according to its intended application within said
body cavity.

56. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said sheath
has a proximal end and further comprising a sealing valve disposed on said
proximal end.

57. (cancelled)

58. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 56 where said sealing valve is integral with said sheath.

59. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 56 where said sealing valve is separate from said sheath.

60. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising at least one wire disposed in said sheath and usable for deflecting and positioning said sheath.

61. - 69. (cancelled)

70. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool is steerable.

71. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 where said shaping tool comprises a guidewire.

72. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and
a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body

cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool has a tip portion which is substantially soft and compliant without substantial moldability rendering it nontraumatic.

73. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and

a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool further comprises at least one lumen defined therethrough and a vent communicated with said lumen.

74. (cancelled)

75. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a moldable sheath capable of at least temporarily retaining a specific shape imparted to it; and

a shaping tool arranged and configured to be applied to said implanted sheath to impart said specific shape to said sheath while within said-a body cavity, which specific shape is held without continued assistance of said shaping tool, where said shaping tool further comprises a conductor disposed therethrough and an electrode coupled to said conductor for sensing or delivery

of energy from said electrode.

76. - 89. (cancelled)

90. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath with sufficient moldability at body temperatures to at least temporarily retain a specific shape imparted to it; and
a lumen defined in said moldable sheath, where said sheath has at least one portion with a stiffness different than remaining portions of said sheath wherein the sheath is comprised of a relatively stiffer proximal portion and relatively stiffer distal portion extending to a distal tip with a relatively less stiff intermediate portion therebetween.

91. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:
a moldable sheath with sufficient moldability at body temperatures to at least temporarily retain a specific shape imparted to it; and
a lumen defined in said moldable sheath, where said sheath has at least one portion with a moldability different than remaining portions of said sheath wherein the sheath is comprised of a relatively less moldable proximal portion and relatively less moldable distal portion extending to a distal tip with a relatively more moldable intermediate portion therebetween..

92. (cancelled)